

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 04762 061229Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01

L-03 /031 W

-----086962 061234Z /40

P 052037Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4950

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 4762

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN DETAINEE

LUIS MARIA BAZZANO

REF: A. STATE 5146 B. MONTEVIDEO 155 C. MONTEVIDEO 4510

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL C ON OCT. 4 LUIS BAZZANO'S MOTHER RETURNED TO EMBASSY AND GAVE US THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON LUIS' SITUATION.

2. BACKGROUND: FOLLOWING HIS ARREST ON APRIL 4, 1975 HE WAS TAKEN TO A POLICE STATION AND THEN TO THE PUNTA CARRETAS PRISON IN MONTEVIDEO, USED MOSTLY TO HOLD COMMON CRIMINALS. ON MAY 6, 1976 LUIS WAS FREED UNDER BAIL BY A MILITARY COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE, BUT WAS IMMEDIATELY RE-ARRESTED AND DISAPPEARED. THEN, IN JUNE AND AUGUST 1976 MRS. BAZZANO WAS INFORMED THAT LUIS WAS IN A LOCAL MILITARY HOSPITAL. SHE WAS ABLE TO BRING TOILET ARTICLES FOR HIM BUT NOT ALLOWED TO SEE HIM. THE AUTHORITIES TOLD HER LUIS WAS BEING HELD AT THE FIRST INFANTRY REGIMENT (LA PALOMA) BARRACKS IN MONTEVIDEO. SINCE THAT TIME SHE HAS BEEN PERMITTED TO VISIT HIM EVERY 15 DAYS.

3. CURRENT TREATMENT: MRS. BAZZANO INFORMED US THAT

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LUIS WAS RECENTLY BROUGHT TO THE MILITARY HOSPITAL FOR EXAMINATION AND OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT FOR HEMMORHOIDS (APPARENTLY THE "INTESTINAL" PROBLEM REPORTED IN REF C). HE IS HELD WITH ABOUT 20 OTHERS IN A SHED-TYPE STRUCTURE. ABOUT 30 DAYS AGO, GENERAL RODOLFO ZUBIA (NEW COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ARMY DIVISION) PAID AN INSPECTION VISIT TO THE BARRACKS WHICH INCLUDED A REVIEW OF THE PRISONERS BUT

NO INTERVIEWS. SINCE THAT TIME, LUIS HAS REPORTED BETTER TREATMENT. THE FOOD HAS IMPROVED AND PRISONERS ARE NOW ALLOWED OUTDOORS TO WORK THREE DAYS PER WEEK, FOR ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS EACH TIME. HOWEVER, THEY STILL ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ.

4. SENTENCING; ALTHOUGH, ACCORDING TO MRS. BAZZANO, THE PROSECUTOR HAS REQUESTED A FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEAR SENTENCE FOR LUIS, THE COURT HAS NOT YET ACTED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DETENTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MONTEV04762
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770364-1088
Format: TEL
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771092/aaaadaem.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a308f336-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 5146
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1029675
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN DETAINEE LUIS MARIA BAZZANO
TAGS: SHUM, UY, (BAZZANO, LUIS MARIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a308f336-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009